

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims.

1. (Currently amended) A system for audio streaming, the system comprising:
  - an audio streaming server providing an audio stream;
  - a client including a buffer storing at least portions of said audio stream received from said audio streaming server;
  - a buffer status sensor operative to: (1) monitor ~~measure~~ a rate of playback of ~~the contents of said stored portions of said audio stream in said buffer~~, and ~~to measure~~ (2) monitor a rate of said audio stream received from said audio streaming server to determine if said audio stream received from said audio streaming server is delayed or slowed down, ~~said buffer status sensor including an audio sampler for sampling portions of said audio stream~~, said buffer status sensor identifying, as a function of (a) the measured said playback rate of said stored portions of said audio stream in said buffer and (b) said rate of said audio stream rates received from said audio streaming server, one or more locations in said stored portions of said audio stream stored in said buffer where an audio segment could be inserted when said audio stream from said audio streaming server is determined to be delayed or slowed down; and
  - a client audio output inserter operative in response to an output from said buffer status sensor to provide a modified audio stream output from said buffer including pre-recorded audio segments, which were not received from said audio streaming server, inserted at one or more of said audio stream identified ~~locations identified by said buffer status sensor~~.
- 2-4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said inserted audio segments comprise advertisements.
6. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client comprises a telephone.

7. (Canceled)
8. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client comprises a telephone and an IVR.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) A system according to claim 1 and wherein said client provides a real time output.
11. (Currently amended) A method of audio streaming, the method comprising:  
providing an audio stream to a client;  
storing in a buffer at least portions of said audio stream;  
~~measuring~~ monitoring a rate of playback of said ~~contents of~~ stored portions of said audio stream in said buffer and ~~measuring~~ monitoring a rate of said received audio stream to determine if said received audio stream is delayed or slowed down, wherein said ~~measuring~~ monitoring of said playback rate of said contents of said buffer and said ~~measuring~~ monitoring of said audio stream rate are performed by a buffer status sensor ~~including an audio sampler sampling portions of said audio stream~~, and said buffer status sensor identifying, as a function of the ~~measured~~ monitored playback rate of said stored portions of said audio stream in said buffer and said monitored rate of said received audio stream ~~rates~~, one or more locations in said audio stream where an audio segment could be inserted when said audio stream is determined to be delayed or slowed down; and  
providing a modified audio stream, which includes inserting pre-recorded ~~informational~~ audio segments, which were not received in said audio stream, at one or more of said ~~audio stream locations~~ identified locations ~~by said measuring~~.
- 12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said inserted audio segments comprise advertisements.
16. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said client comprises a telephone.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said client comprises a telephone and an IVR.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Original) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said modified audio stream is a real time output.
- 21-40. (Canceled)
41. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said client audio output inserter provides audible cues from a sample of audio selected by a user.
42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein said providing a modified audio stream further comprises providing audible cues from a sample of audio selected by a user.
43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said pre-recorded audio segments comprise one of background noise and background music.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein said providing a modified audio stream includes pre-recorded audio segments, the pre-recorded audio segments comprising one of background noise and background music.

45. Canceled